

January 20, 2021

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 3 East
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairwoman Kelley:

The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) supports Senate Bill 235 - Major Information Technology Development Project Fund – Use of Funds. This legislation would amend the code so that monies paid into the Major Information Technology Development Project Fund (MITDPF) shall be used to support the State telecommunications and computer network and the Maryland FIRST Public Safety Interoperability Radio System.

The current law states that the MITDPF “may” be used to support the State telecommunications and computer network. DoIT would like to clarify that it shall be used for that purpose and that it can also be used for Maryland FIRST. This is the current practice but DoIT would like this bill to clarify the intent of the original legislation.

The MITDPF is crucial to the continued upgrading of information technology and communications systems throughout the state. In FY2021, DoIT is estimated to have fifty-three MITDPs across twenty-five agencies. Without this dedicated funding these projects and the agencies they are intended to help would suffer greatly.

For these reasons, DoIT respectfully requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 235.

Best,

Michael G. Leahy